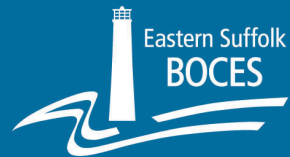


# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity

Advancing Equitable Opportunities



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## November Cultural Heritage Highlights



### November is Native American Heritage Month

This is a time to recognize the history, culture, and contributions of Indigenous people. It was initially celebrated in 1916 by the state of New York and it was not until 1990 that President George H.W. Bush established it as a month-long festival. Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, led advocacy efforts from Rochester, New York throughout the early 1900s.

During this time we remember the past and we celebrate the Indigenous people and cultures who impact our world today, like Marine Colonel [Nicole Mann](#), (the first female Native American to travel to space, making her journey with NASA in October 2022), or Interior Secretary [Deb Haaland](#), (who became the first Indigenous Cabinet member in U.S. history in 2021), among many others.

#### Participate in events around Long Island:

[Niamuck Land Trust Educational Resources](#)

[Native Long Island, an exhibit by local artist Jeremy Dennis](#)

[Explore Native American Heritage Month on Long Island](#)

#### Educational Resources:

[Explore Native American Heritage Month at the New York State Museum](#)

[Native American Heritage Month resources for teachers](#)



### Veterans Day – November 11

The theme for Veterans Day 2023 is "Service." Veterans are proud of their military service in defending our Nation. Honor reflects the military value and tradition of answering the call to duty. Veterans Day is observed every year on Nov. 11. Veterans Day evolved from Armistice Day, which was proclaimed in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson. Armistice Day recognizes the end of World War I, when fighting ceased at the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month in 1918.

For more information and lesson ideas:

[Veterans Day in the classroom](#)

[PBS Lesson Plan: Veterans Day and the Meaning of Sacrifice](#)

[Veterans Day for kids](#)



### All Souls Day – November 2

All Souls' Day, also known as the "Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed" and the "Day of the Dead" or "Día de los Muertos", is a day of prayer and remembrance for the faithful departed, which is observed by Roman Catholics and other Christian denominations annually on 2 November.

[Learn about The Day of the Dead on PBS](#)





## Diwali – November 12

Diwali is the Indian “festival of lights”—a holiday celebrating the triumph of good over evil. In 2023, Diwali will be celebrated on November 12. Though technically religious, it’s also become a cultural event in North America celebrated with sweets and special foods.

Who Celebrates Diwali? Followers of the Hindu, Sikh, and Jain faiths primarily celebrate Diwali. However, the holiday is celebrated throughout India, Singapore, and several other South Asian countries as a national holiday, meaning that people outside these religions may participate in Diwali celebrations, too. Hindu, Sikh, and Jain communities in the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, and elsewhere around the globe also regularly celebrate Diwali.

[Learn about Diwali on PBS](#)

[For more on PBS about Diwali celebrations worldwide](#)

[PBS Kids: celebrate Diwali with books](#)



## Thanksgiving Day – November 23

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving occurs on Thursday, November 23, 2023.

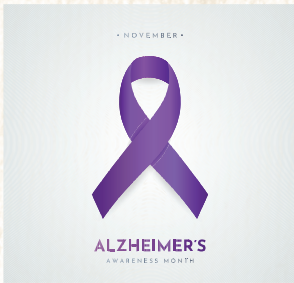
It wasn’t until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

For more information about the history of Thanksgiving:

[Learn about Thanksgiving from The History Channel](#)

[PBS presents the true story of the first Thanksgiving](#)

[Thanksgiving | All About the Holidays on PBS](#)



## November is Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month

What You Need to Know:

During National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, we honor and support the millions of brave Americans who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, along with the selfless family members and caregivers who stand by their sides throughout the long course of this heartbreaking disease.

- There are over 6 million Americans living with Alzheimer's Disease with 3 million new cases diagnosed each year.
- The disease is most prevalent in women and Black Americans.
- 11 million Americans act as unpaid caregivers for a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's.
- Fewer than 1 in 5 Americans are familiar with mild cognitive impairment, which can be an early stage of Alzheimer's.

Source: [Alzheimer's Association](#)

[Information about the Long Island Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association](#)



## Transgender Day of Remembrance – November 20

Each year between November 13-19, people and organizations around the country participate in Transgender Awareness Week to help raise the visibility about transgender people and address issues members of the community face.

[Transgender Day of Remembrance](#) (TDOR), is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence that year. 2021 marks the most deadly year recorded with at least 45 transgender people, most of them Black or Latinx, killed.

[Visit the Transgender Resource Center](#)

